

EXHIBIT 6

Dan Christensen



November 20, 2011

Office of Information Policy (OIP)
U.S. Department of Justice
1425 New York Ave. NW Suite 11050
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Re: Freedom of Information Act Appeal of Request No. 1176403-000

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is an appeal under the Freedom of Information Act.

On Oct. 27, 2011 I requested documents from the FBI under the FOIA. My request, No. 1176403-000, also asked for expedited processing.

On Nov. 14, I was notified that my request had been received at FBI headquarters and that a search of the Central Records System was underway. In a separate letter, I was informed that my request for expedited processing was denied. The letter explained that I had “not provided enough information concerning the statutory requirements permitting expedition.”

I appeal the denial of my request for expedited processing.

The denial letter stated that DOJ standards permit expedited processing when one or more of four conditions are met. My request clearly meets two of those standards: 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(d)(1) (ii) and (iv).

As I explained in my Oct. 27 request letter, I am a news reporter. I operate the nonprofit news site *Broward Bulldog*, www.browardbulldog.org. I am also a contract reporter with *The Miami Herald*. I recently wrote about the FBI investigation that is the subject of my request, and intend to publish additional stories.

Stories published to date have disclosed the existence of a decade-old, closed FBI investigation into alleged ties between 9/11 hijackers and a Saudi family who abruptly departed their home in Sarasota, Florida two weeks before the 2001 attacks. The stories raised fresh questions about possible Saudi complicity in the attacks, and quoted former Florida Senator Bob Graham as saying the FBI failed to disclose

information about the Sarasota investigation to Congress's Joint Inquiry into the attacks. Graham co-chaired the Joint Inquiry. <http://www.browardbulldog.org/2011/09/fbi-found-direct-ties-between-911-hijackers-and-saudis-living-in-florida-congress-kept-in-dark/>

The stories that appeared under the bylines of a colleague and me in the *Herald* and *Broward Bulldog* generated widespread and exceptional public and media interest. Numerous newspapers and television networks and Internet web sites around the country picked up the stories and/or linked back to *Broward Bulldog*'s web site. Rep. Kathy Castor, D-Sarasota, asked the House Intelligence Committee to investigate.

There is an urgent need to inform the public about the FBI's Sarasota investigation and its findings regarding possible Saudi complicity in providing support to the 9/11 hijackers who killed nearly 3,000 of our fellow Americans. "If they provided this kind of support for an operation in 2001, do they have the same capability to do it in 2011?" asked Senator Graham. <http://www.browardbulldog.org/2011/09/graham-asks-obama-for-answers-on-saudi-role-in-911-fbi-denies-sarasota-probe-found-ties-to-plot/>

FBI spokesmen have said the FBI found no connection between the Saudi family in Sarasota and the hijackers. But it so far has refused specific requests by various newspapers to provide details that would support that assertion – a position that has raised questions of integrity and candor, and served to diminish public confidence in the FBI.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan Christensen

P.S. – I would have preferred to expedite matters, and save postage costs, by filing this appeal letter by email. I saw no way to do that in the instructions. I would ask that you establish and post an email address where appeals can be sent. Thank you.